

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILDCATS OF TRAINING SQUADRON TEN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Wildcats of Training Squadron Ten. Through times of war and through times of peace, the Wildcats have served our country with great distinction and valor. For that reason, I am proud to recognize the Wildcats of Squadron Ten for their exceptional training and excellent performance over the last 50 years.

From the first day the squadron was commissioned, the Wildcats of Training Squadron Ten have continued the legacy of training a new generation of pilots with the skill and will to fight and win. Today, Training Squadron Ten trains more than 300 Naval Flight Officers and Air Force Weapons System Officers annually, and flies approximately 13,400 flight hours each year.

Throughout the squadron's history, the Wildcats have been awarded with numerous awards and honors. In 1978 they were awarded the Towers Award. Training Squadron Ten's extensive energy conservation efforts and improved efficiency standards won the Secretary of the Navy's Energy Conservation Award in 1995, 1996, and 2002. Furthermore, the safety initiatives implemented by VT-10 have earned the squadron 21 Chief of Naval Operations Safety Awards.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the Wildcats for going above and beyond the call of duty on their 50th anniversary. To this day, the Wildcats of Training Squadron Ten continue to provide the highest quality training to our nation's aviators. As they remain resolute and steadfast to doing their part to defend our country, we must do our part to remember their unwavering commitment with our hearts and minds.

HONORING MS. FEDORA MANZOA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Ms. Fedora Manzoa. Ms. Manzoa served her constituency faithfully and justly during her tenure as the Portland Tax Collector.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Ms. Manzoa served her term with her head held high and a smile on her face the entire way.

I have no doubt that her kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Ms. Manzoa is one of those people and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to her today.

HONORING RON GETTELFINGER
FOR HIS LEADERSHIP OF THE
UAW

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I take this time to honor one of America's great leaders, retiring president of the United Auto Workers Union, Ron Gettelfinger. Mr. Gettelfinger served as president of the UAW from 2002 until 2010.

Mr. Gettelfinger became a member of the UAW in 1964 when he became a chassis line repairman in Ford's Louisville factory. In 1984 Mr. Gettelfinger was elected by the membership of the UAW Local 862 chapter in Louisville to represent them as their committee person, bargaining chair, and president, and in 1992 Mr. Gettelfinger was elected to be the director of UAW's Region 3, which represents the UAW membership of Indiana and Kentucky. Then in 1998 Mr. Gettelfinger was elected vice president of the UAW, and he served in that position until June 5, 2002, when at the UAW's 33rd constitutional convention Mr. Gettelfinger was elected president.

Throughout Mr. Gettelfinger's rise to the top within the UAW he was driven by the sole purpose of fighting for the rights of the American worker. He fought for fair trade agreements that would protect the rights and health of American workers and the environment. He steadfastly worked to prevent a race to the bottom environment in countries around the world, and was an outspoken advocate for a national single-payer health care system. He fought for all of these ideals while having to lead the UAW through the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, and I wish there were more exemplary fighters out there like Ron Gettelfinger.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Mr. Ron Gettelfinger for his 46 years of service as both a member and leader of the United Auto Workers Union, and in wishing him all the best in his retirement.

THE SWEEP ACT

HON. GLENN C. NYE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. NYE. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday I introduced, with my colleague Mr. WILSON, the Stop Waste by Eliminating Excessive Programs Act, otherwise known as the SWEEP act. The bill will reduce wasteful government spending by creating a means to review and abolish federal programs that are inefficient, unnecessary, or outdated.

Back home in Hampton Roads and the Eastern Shore of Virginia, families sit around the kitchen table, forced to make tough decisions about their budget and where they need to trim back—it's time Congress acted with the same responsibility.

We have already taken several important steps toward fiscal restraint and responsibility, such as voting to install statutory Pay-Go budget rules. Another area of spending Congress has tackled is the Congressional pay raise. Voted in favor of before I took office, I immediately took my unnecessary raise and donated it to Vetshouse, a local organization in my district that supports homeless veterans. In addition, I, joined by many of my colleagues, successfully voted to stop the Congressional pay raise for this year and the next. But these efforts are just the tip of the iceberg.

It is clear that we need a more comprehensive approach to reducing the federal government footprint and my bill will do just this.

Across the various federal agencies and bureaus, the government supports tens of thousands of programs. Many of which have been continuing for years without proper Congressional oversight or authorization. In effect, these programs continue to receive funding without proving their merit.

What's more, without a thorough inventory, duplicative programs have cropped up across agency lines, wasting precious taxpayer dollars on activities that are being performed elsewhere.

The SWEEP Act is a three step approach that will make sure inefficient, duplicative, or wasteful programs are eliminated.

The first step is to review current funding authorizations by creating a bi-partisan Sunset Commission. The Commission will examine each and every government-funded program to determine its worth based on proven outcomes, cost-effectiveness, scope of interest, and whether a duplicative program exists.

The second step will require the Commission to submit a report to Congress annually, analyzing each program reviewed. This report will recommend whether each program assessed should be abolished, consolidated, transferred, reorganized or remain untouched.

The final step will require the Commission to submit a legislative proposal to Congress, which contains all programs recommended for reform or repeal. This legislation will be fast tracked and must receive an up or down vote by Congress within a month of the proposal.

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